



Mission: To help residents of inner cities improve the quality of their lives to reflect individual God-given dignity and personal achievement.

INTERCOM

Social Investment News

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Mission – To help residents of inner cities improve the quality of their lives to reflect individual God-given dignity and personal achievement

NCC Education Department

The newly instituted Education Department has declared its goal—to **enhance educational programs to provide high quality services to young people**. In so doing, Director Regina Adesanya set about forming an Education Team to work on reaching this goal. Subsequently, the Education Team was divided into four committees, each with its own specific agenda.

Accreditation Committee

The immediate pursuit of this committee is to obtain accreditation by the National Association for the Education of Young Children for the NCC Early Learning Center by 2003. The Center is already certified by the State of New Jersey, Division of Youth and Family Services Bureau of Licensing and in full compliance with their regulations. Concomitantly, the Committee will investigate accreditation possibilities for the two NCC Charter Schools. To receive and retain accreditation requires quality programs of national excellence—one more way to level the playing field.

Strategic Planning Committee

Developing a plan for the department will include: collection, analysis and synthesis of data on children within the NCC Network and Newark; identification of programs and evaluating strengths and weaknesses of same; identification of gaps in service and opportunities; building relationships with local/national community groups.

Staff Recruitment/Retention Committee

Given the severe shortage of teachers in the Northeast, this committee must make special efforts to reach quality professionals in the field of education:

- establish real communication/sharing among network schools
- devise professional development activities
- develop internal training programs

Parent Education Committee

The need for parental involvement in children's schooling is paramount for a child's success. The committee will determine techniques: for convincing parents they are needed/wanted; to help parents improve their skills in providing educational and developmental support for their children.

Why establish a Department of Education?

Since NCC deals with almost 2000 young people on a daily basis, it became clear that an overarching goal was needed for all of our education-related venues. These places of learning will base their own goals and objectives on the department's team goal.

The team will serve in a planning and organizing capacity as well as consultant for any network education-oriented program. Also, team members will act as advocates for quality education.



NCC Early Learning Center
three and four year olds
during "morning message"—
open discussion of nature/
color/foods/etc to prepare/
open minds for learning

NCC Health Care, Inc.,

Since January 1986 when the Extended Care Facility opened, health care operations have grown rapidly. With the welcoming of Essex Valley Visiting Nurse Association (EVVNA) and Care at Home (CAH) into the network and the realigning of all NCC health-related programs, health care workers now number 769.

Home Health Care

Home Health Aides are certified by the NJ Board of Nursing after satisfactorily completing a 76 hour course which includes Infection Control, Domestic Violence, Fire Safety and Disaster, Company Policies, Body Mechanics, Substance Abuse, Hypertension, Catheter

Care, Caring for Client on Bedrest, et al. RNs visit daily to assess clients and to supervise aides who take annual competency exam.

Home Friends Program

Home Friends provide chore services to elderly and disabled who are functionally limited in performance of essential daily activities. Services include light housekeeping, laundry needs, local errands, food shopping, and preparation of meals.

Family Service Bureau (FSB)

FSB is staffed by professionally trained social workers who help families and individuals regain control over their lives. FSB services are all accredited—Family Crisis Intervention, Employees Assistance Program, School Based Counseling, Community Behavioral Health Outpatient Services, Intensive Outpatient Substance Abuse Program, Family Court Program, Juvenile Fire-Setters Program.

FSB was especially helpful during the World Trade Center horror on 9/11. They were available to counsel many of the journalists/photographers who were on the scene early in the day.

Medical Day Care (MDC)—a place where disabled, chronically ill, frail adults can spend the day and return home each night. Services available for participants include transportation, Social Services, hot lunch, morning nutrition, medication supervision, counseling, and more. NCC has four MDC sites in Newark for a total of 260 participants

Extended Care Facility is essentially a nursing home with 180 beds for seniors as well as occasional younger rehab clients. The facility boasts an auditorium, activities room, fitness center, beauty salon, barber shop, Wanderguard, 24 hour security, and other amenities. Funding source – 98% Medicaid.

Essex Valley Visiting Nurse Association/Care at Home are partners in a community-based health agency. Both professional nursing and para professional health care are rendered to community members who are unable to care for themselves independently.

Social Investment

The 8% return on your investment is largely a sincere thank you for caring about the poor of Newark. Despite the renaissance in downtown Newark and despite NCC's ongoing work with Welfare to Work and Workforce Development, there exist the ff:

- ▶ neighborhoods with burned out buildings from the '67 Riots
- ▶ hunger – for many who must choose between food and the electric bill
- ▶ unemployment because of lack of skills
- ▶ grandparents raising children of teens or addicts
- ▶ young adults (20s) still hanging out on street corners
- ▶ small children taught to steal cars/parts for a few dollars
- ▶ mentally challenged persons frightened and uncared for

NCC cannot change the world but we hope to level the playing field in Newark. There is much to do and we will continue, with your help, to work toward justice and equality.

Geraldine Covington

For the past thirteen years, Geraldine Covington has been St. Rose of Lima School's Kindergarten teacher. She is one of the school's greatest treasures. And among her own treasures is a *joie de vivre* unequalled by most of us. Geraldine is a lover of nature, reading, music, and dancing. She plays Brahms, Bach, and Beethoven in class during quiet times. Her students now recognize the music of the three B's and often ask for a particular composer. She has proven that five year olds can appreciate classical music.

Geraldine, who now lives in Newark, attended John Jay High School in Beacon, N.Y. where she was born. Post high school, Geraldine worked for IBM in East Fishkill, N.Y. testing computer parts (pre micro-chips). Recognizing that her job was somewhat less than exciting, she moved on to become a manager of a mini pharmacy cum department store in Brinckerhoff, N.Y.

Still uncertain of her real calling, Geraldine moved to Newark. She became a Vista Volunteer and worked with a youth group. She also became a part-time care giver in Babylands housed in St. Rose School basement. This working experience was the most exciting and satisfactory she had ever felt. She had found her calling.

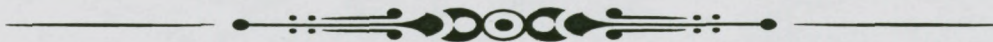
During this time the principal of St. Rose had noticed her ability and invited her to substitute for a teacher on maternity leave. Geraldine was a "natural" in the classroom. She has remained in St. Rose with the Kindergarten where her talent, commitment and success are now simply expected.

Teaching with incredible enthusiasm, Geraldine fosters enthusiastic learning. She has accreditation from Caldwell College, Essex County College, and the Newark Archdiocese. Geraldine recognizes the multiple intelligences in the classroom and teaches to them. She is computer literate and realizes the improvement in eye and hand coordination of five year old computer users. Her students are bright, cheerful, and imitative of their beloved teacher.

Mrs. Covington is married with a 22 year old son, Michael, who has given her one of the great joys of her life – a granddaughter. Geraldine and her two year old, AJewell, have joined the mutual admiration society. The child will certainly learn the golden rule as have all of Mrs. Covington's children in St. Rose.

As a lover of nature and of order, Geraldine often sits quietly on a park bench to absorb God's handiwork—order in nature. She manages to fill her heart with genuine goodness and kindness which is apparent in all her relationships.

St. Rose of Lima School is truly blest with an outstanding educator.



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